

REMARKS

It is noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated that claims 8-11, although objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As will be noted by the Examiner, original claim 1 has been combined with allowable claim 8 and rewritten as newly added claim 14. Newly added claim 15 represents a combination of original claim 1 and allowable claim 9. Newly added claim 16 represents a combination of original claim 1 and allowable claim 10. Newly added claim 17 represents a combination of original claim 1 and allowable claim 11. Newly added claim 18 represents a combination of original claim 1 and the relationship between the depth of the dimple in the core compared to the depth of the dimple in the cover as recited on page 7, line 22, of the present application. Newly added claim 19 represents a combination of original claim 1 and a recitation of the preferred depth of the dimple in the core compared to the depth of the dimple in the cover. Newly added claim 20 represents a combination of original claim 1 and the ratio of the number of dimples in the cover having corresponding and aligned dimples in the core to the total number of dimples in the cover as recited in lines 5-8 on page 8 of the present application. Claims 21-24 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 15. Claims 25-28 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 16. Claims 29-32 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 17. Claims 33-36 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 18. Claims 37-40 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 19. Claims 41-44 are the same as claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 but dependent upon claim 20.

It is believed that all the newly added claims are allowable over the prior art for the same reasons as original claims 8-11 were considered to be allowable over the prior art.

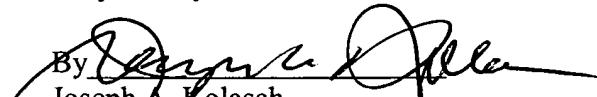
Claims 1, 6, 7, 12 and 13 have been objected to by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sullivan et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,773,364. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Although claim 1 has been canceled from the present application to expedite the allowance of claims 8-11 as well as a number of newly added claims based primarily on allowable claims 8-11, it is believed that claim 1 does in fact contain allowable subject matter over the Sullivan et al. Patent No. 6,773,364 and thus it is the Applicant's intention to further prosecute claims containing the scope of original claim 1 in a separate continuation application. More specifically, it is believed that the core of the present invention is provided with concave dimples and the cover is also provided with concave dimples, said dimples in the core and in the cover surrounding the core being in position to correspond with each other. The Examiner argues on page 3 of the Office Action that the Applicant has not claimed any particular arrangement, more specifically, the use of the expression "aligned" does not, in the Examiner's opinion have a particular meaning. Although the Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation of the claims, it is believed that a complete understanding of the claims can be found intrinsically within the four corners of the present application as filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, as stated here above, the Applicant intends to resolve these issues during the prosecution of a continuation application.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

Dated: December 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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